

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 19, with the following paragraph:

0.217 g of cerium nitrate ( $\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.) and 0.0055 g of strontium nitrate ( $\text{Sr}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.) was dissolved in water to provide a silver to cerium to strontium molar ratio of 1 : 1 : 0.05, and 0.108 g of the silver-loaded carbon powder was added to this aqueous solution, followed by ultrasonic dispersion for 5 minutes. Subsequently, the water content was evaporated in an oven at 100°C, followed by drying to provide a sample powder. This powder was subjected to firing in a stream of nitrogen at 400°C for one hour, using the inert gas firing furnace, and ground employing the mill to provide an electrode catalyst powder.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 9, with the following paragraph:

Magnesium nitrate ( $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.) was used instead of strontium nitrate in Example 1 so as to provide a silver to cerium to magnesium molar ratio of 1 : 1 : 0.05. However, preparation and evaluation were carried out otherwise as described in Example 1. The measurement of the powder X-ray diffraction of the electrode catalyst powder prepared resulted in the detection of Ag and  $\text{CeO}_2$ . A diffraction angle ( $2\theta$ ) corresponding to the main diffraction line of  $\text{CeO}_2$  (111) was 28.669°. The conversion of this to a grating constant provided 5.393 Å. The grating constant of  $\text{CeO}_2$  alone is 5.411 Å. The solid solution formation of magnesium produced the decreased grating constant.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 41, line 5, with the following paragraph:

To 80 g of water were added 0.0944 g of silver nitrate ( $\text{AgNO}_3$ , from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.), 0.217 g of cerium nitrate ( $\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.), and 0.0118 g of strontium nitrate ( $\text{Sr}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd.) to provide a silver to cerium to strontium molar ratio of 1 : 1 : 0.1, followed by stirring to prepare a mixture of the metal salts.